

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SANTIA 07120 212148Z

70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 DODE-00 IGA-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 H-02 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 /051 W

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R 212130Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ/SCSA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 453

S E C R E T SANTIAGO 7120

PERSONAL FOR LTG MCAULIFFE FROM AMBASSADOR POPPER

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, MASS

SUBJECT: U.S. MILITARY GROUP CHILE

REFS: (A) SANTIAGO 6807 (B) USCINCSO 162305Z JUL 76

1. ON RETURNING FROM A TRIP TO THE NORTH OF CHILE, I HAVE READ YOUR MESSAGE OF JULY 16 AND FULLY UNDERSTAND YOUR VIEWPOINT. WE OBVIOUSLY DIFFER SOMEWHAT IN OUR JUDGMENTS, BUT I AM SURE THE MATTER CAN BE WORKED OUT.
2. YOU STATE IN YOUR MESSAGE THAT YOU WOULD PREFER TO HOLD UP PERSONNEL ACTIONS, EXCEPT THOSE IMMEDIATELY PENDING, UNTIL THERE HAS BEEN AN NSC DECISION ON THE WORLDWIDE MAAG/MILGP REQUIREMENT STUDY. THIS STRIKES ME AS EMINENTLY REASONABLE, THE MORE SO BECAUSE I AM SURE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S VIEWS WILL BE FULLY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THE NSC CONSIDERATION. ACCORDINGLY, I PROPOSE THAT WE LET MATTERS STAND AS THEY ARE UNTIL WE HAVE A MORE SOLID BASIS FOR POST-1976 PLANNING.
3. MEANWHILE, I DO HAVE A SUGGESTION AS TO YOUR PROPOSAL TO CURTAIL THE TOUR OF ONE INDIVIDUAL IN ORDER TO BALANCE THE NECESSARY REPLACEMENT FOR THE AIR FORCE LOGISTICS OFFICER. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH MILITARY GROUP COMMANDER COLONEL MAYFIELD. IT STRIKES US THAT IT WOULD BE COUNTER-

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PRODUCTIVE TO BRING IN A NEW LOGISTICS OFFICER AT THIS TIME,

IN VIEW OF THE DUBIOUS FUTURE OF THE SANTIAGO MILITARY GROUP
IN GENERAL. WE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO DIVERT THE
AIR FORCE LOGISTICS OFFICER AND ASSIGN LTC NEWCOMB TO THE
LOGISTICS SLOT. LTC NEWCOMB HAS THE CONTACTS, SPEAKS SPANISH
WELL, AND CAN HANDLE LOGISTICS PROCEDURES. UNDER OUR PROPOSAL,
HE WOULD BE SHIFTED INTO THE AIR FORCE LOGISTICS OFFICER
POSITION WHEN LTC DOCKERY DEPARTS IN 1977. THE OPS STAFF
REPRESENTATIVE POSITION WOULD THEN BE ELIMINATED.

4. COLONEL MAYFIELD AND I WOULD WELCOME YOUR REACTION TO
THIS PROPOSAL.

5. EVERY GOOD WISH.
POPPER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ATTACHES, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SANTIA07120
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760281-0739
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760736/aaaabfrr.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 SANTIAGO 6807
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <27 OCT 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. MILITARY GROUP CHILE
TAGS: MASS, CI, US
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006